NEBRASKA
WEATHER & CROPS

For Week Ending August 11, 1991

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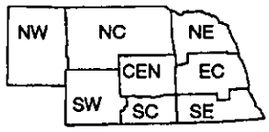

Nebraska Department of Agriculture
Division of Agr'l. Statistics
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WEATHER

Measurable amounts of precipitation occurred the first half of the week. Amounts varied from trace amounts up to 1.67 inches. Temperatures averaged from one degree below normal in the Panhandle to seven degrees below in the central portion.

GENERAL

Nebraska farmers and ranchers had their available days for fieldwork limited by rains in several areas of the State last week, according to the Nebraska Agricultural Statistics Service. These rain delay days allowed some irrigators to temporarily shut down their systems, green up sorghum and soybean fields, and relieve heat stress on cattle. Many areas are still in need of moisture for dryland crops and pastures. Crop deterioration in those areas remains a concern. Also, in those areas receiving little or no rainfall, irrigators remain very busy trying to get water to their crops. Other fieldwork activities included alfalfa and wild hay harvest, weed and insect control, and fall seeding preparations.

CROPS

All corn condition was rated at 2% very poor, 9% poor, 20% fair, 57% good, and 12% excellent. Dryland corn was rated at 26% good or better while 87% of the irrigated corn was in good or better condition. Overall, all corn condition improved slightly this past week. Dryland corn in areas of limited or no rainfall continue to show stress and deterioration. Crop development continues well ahead of normal and a year ago.

CROPS (Cont.)

Soybean condition improved and was rated at 15% poor, 38% fair, 40% good, and 7% excellent. Walking beans and chemical weed control continued.

Sorghum condition remained nearly the same as last week at 6% very poor, 15% poor, 48% fair, 29% good, and 2% excellent. Crop development continued slightly ahead of normal. Last week's rains have helped some fields to head out that previously were at a standstill in development due to a lack of moisture.

Alfalfa was rated at 8% very poor, 20% poor, 29% fair, 39% good, and 4% excellent. Third cutting activities made good progress last week but remain behind last year and normal. Wild hay was rated at 1% very poor, 15% poor, 28% fair, 48% good, and 8% excellent. Harvest remained active.

LIVESTOCK

Pasture and range condition was rated at 78% of normal. Recent rains have held steady the deteriorating pasture condition. Reports continue to indicate that supplemental feeding is required where poor grazing exits or where grazing needs to be extended. Some feeder cattle were beginning to move.

FIELD WORK PROGRESS AS OF AUGUST 11, 1991	AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS DISTRICTS								STATE	LAST WEEK	LAST YEAR	AVER-AGE
	NW	NC	NE	C	EC	SW	SC	SE				
% corn dough stage	43	59	48	87	71	85	66	83	69	37	27	53
% corn dented	1	5	4	18	25	5	10	44	16	0	1	10
% sorghum headed	84	75	76	89	88	64	70	76	79	62	50	74
% sorghum turning color	0	2	8	1	11	1	3	13	9	0	0	7
% soybeans blooming	0	99	95	95	100	100	94	100	98	94	95	99
% soybeans setting pods	0	56	58	63	78	62	60	74	69	43	37	70
% alfalfa third cutting	4	26	19	41	31	42	72	39	30	14	55	43
DAYS SUITABLE AND SOIL MOISTURE CONDITION AS OF AUGUST 9, 1991												
Days suitable	6.2	5.0	5 1	6 8	4 6	6.1	4 8	3 9	5.2	6.7	6 4	
Topsoil moisture - Short	79	46	61	64	75	83	91	67	71	87	50	
(Percent) - Adequate	21	54	39	36	12	17	9	33	27	13	49	
- Surplus	0	0	0	0	13	0	0	0	2	0	1	
Subsoil moisture - Short	21	82	77	54	69	50	100	83	67	69	55	
(Percent) - Adequate	79	18	23	46	31	50	0	17	33	31	44	
- Surplus	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	

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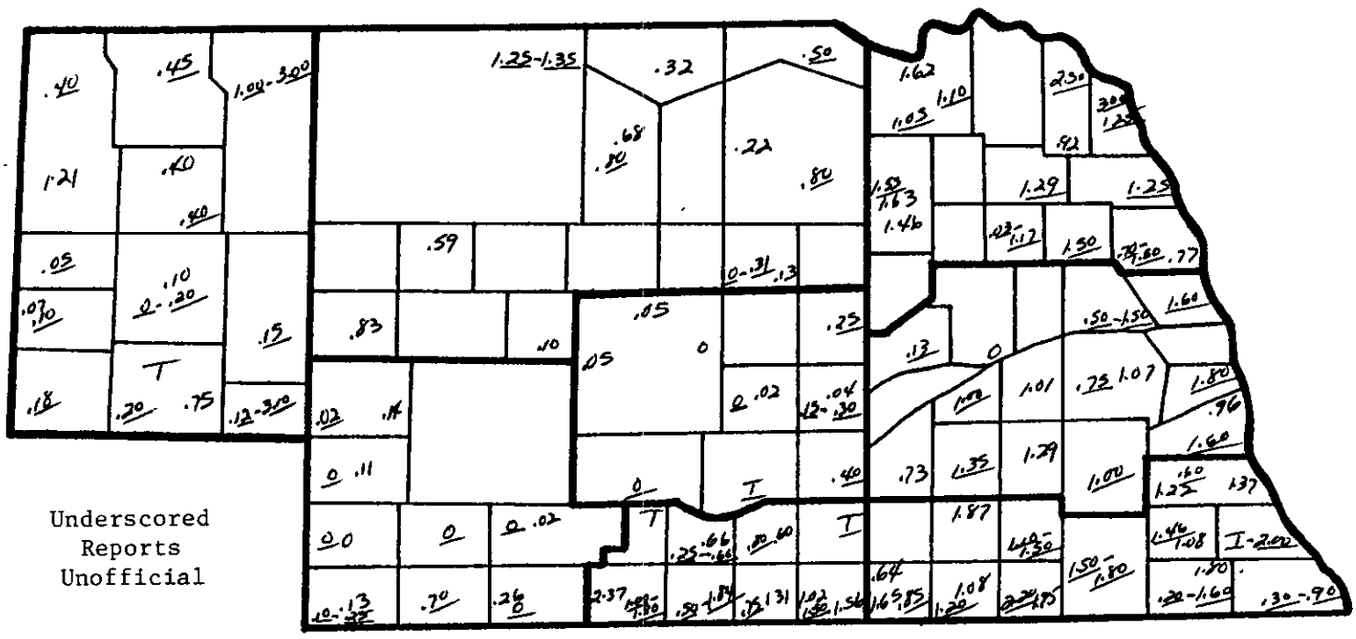
PRECIPITATION MAP FOR WEEK ENDING FRIDAY, AUGUST 9, 1991



Precipitation, April 1 - August 9, 1991

	NW	NC	NE	CEN	EC	SW	SC	SE
Total past week	.42	.41	1.28	.03	.91	.11	1.07	1.41
Total since April 1	11.79	12.22	14.84	12.46	17.38	13.09	13.91	12.70
Normal since April 1	10.71	12.84	14.62	13.80	15.36	11.78	13.85	16.04
Total as % of normal	110%	95%	102%	90%	113%	111%	100%	79%

TEMPERATURE, PRECIPITATION, AND GROWING DEGREE DAY DATA,
WEEK ENDING SUNDAY, AUGUST 11, 1991

	Station	Temperature				Precipitation	Growing Degree Data Since April 15		
		Extremes		Mean	Departure	Total Inches 1/	Last Week	Current	Normal
		Max	Min						
NW	Chadron	96	52	74	---	.57	---	---	---
	Scottsbluff	94	54	73	-1	T	1698	1844	1874
	Sidney	91	50	70	---	T	1653	1788	1838
NC	Valentine	88	51	70	-4	.58	1829	1962	1897
NE	Norfolk	96	53	70	-5	1.24	---	---	---
	Sioux City	95	54	71	-4	1.67	---	---	---
	Concord	---	---	---	---	---	1931	2062	2137
	Elgin	---	---	---	---	---	1955	2080	2079
	West Point*	---	---	---	---	---	2062	2191	2186
CEN	Grand Island	98	52	70	-7	.49	2102	2239	2165
	Ord	95	56	71	---	0	1988	2124	2142
EC	Lincoln	99	54	73	-4	1.18	2259	2406	2251
	Omaha	94	61	71	-4	1.23	2215	2357	2174
	Columbus	---	---	--	---	---	2224	2359	2210
	York	---	---	--	---	---	2163	2300	2268
SW	Imperial	90	56	71	---	0	---	---	---
	North Platte	92	51	71	-3	.18	**1835	**1968	**2034
SC	Holdrege	---	---	---	---	---	2030	2172	2213
SE	Beatrice	---	---	---	---	---	2218	2370	2379
	Clay Center	---	---	---	---	---	2098	2240	2252

1/ Precipitation totals not included in map above. * Automated weather station. ** North Platte Experiment Station.

Growing Degree Days (GDD) are used to measure the length of time required for a crop to reach maturity. The formula used to calculate GDD is: Max. temp. + min. temp. divided by 2 minus 50 = GDD. For example, if the average temperature for a day = 70 degrees, the GDD = 20 for that day. GDD are calculated for each day and accumulated from April 15.

Growing Degree Day data is furnished by the Department of Agricultural Meteorology, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln.